

Iowa Voter Registration Commission

Minutes: 29 December 2021, 10:00 AM CT

The Voter Registration Commission convened on Wednesday, 29 December 2021, in the Secretary of State Conference Room at the Lucas State Office Building. Commissioners Burhans, Smithson, Bonham, and Davison-Rippey participated via phone.

1. Call to Order

Meeting officially called to order by Commissioner Burhans at 10:01 AM CT.

2. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Bonham moved to approve the minutes from the 29 September 2021 meeting; Commissioner Smithson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Business

- A. Secretary of State Legal Counsel, Molly Widen, reviewed ARC 6005C and noted that no questions or comments had been received during the public comment period. Counselor Widen confirmed that the changes to Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 821 are necessary due to Senate File 413 and Senate File 568 enrolled in the 2021 legislative session and that the sections to be amended are not at the heart of any current lawsuits. Commissioner Smithson moved to approve adopting and filing ARC 6005C; Commissioner Davison-Rippey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Commissioner Burhans reviewed the current I-Voters maintenance fee of \$0.175 per registered voter that is billed to counties annually and outlined the current schedule for issuing a Request for Proposal and ultimately implementing a new voter registration and election management system. Commissioner Bonham moved to approve maintaining the I-Voters maintenance fee as \$0.175 per registered voter for 2022; Commissioner Davison-Rippey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Commissioner Burhans reviewed the current voter list request fees as noted on the State of Iowa Specifications and Order Form for Voter List. Commissioner Davison-Rippey moved to approve maintaining the current voter list request fees for 2022; Commissioner Bonham seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Question

Smithson stated he had a question as to a reported lawsuit involving the Commission and election materials being provided in multiple languages, and, to avoid violation of the open meetings law, he did not want the Commission to discuss the matter in any detail. He then asked if service of process had been made in the lawsuit. Counselor Widen responded that the Attorney General's office had accepted service of the lawsuit. Smithson stated that since the Commission was a named party, he would like the Commission to receive a copy of the lawsuit and an update on its status. The Commission then could have a meeting to decide what action, if any, to undertake. Counselor Widen stated that she would inform the Attorney General's office of this request.

5. Adjournment

Commissioner Bonham motioned for the Commission to adjourn; Commissioner Smithson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned.